



EXAMPLE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES from recent Plans

Each policy will be prefaced by a couple of paragraphs giving context, a summary of parish-specific factors, evidence of community support, etc. YL will draft these for your approval. These preambles are important because, as you can see, the policies themselves have to be quite generic in order to use Planning terminology and to be conformable with the legislation and with what NPs can actually say.

Local Green Space proposals

POLICY ENV 1: PROTECTION OF LOCAL GREEN SPACES - Development proposals that would result in the loss of, or have an adverse effect on, an identified Local Green Space (listed below and mapped in figures x1, x2, and detailed in Appendix Z) will be resisted.

Other environmental inventory sites, and other sites identified in community consultations

POLICY ENV 2: PROTECTION OF OTHER SITES OF BIODIVERSITY SIGNIFICANCE – The following sites (environmental inventory, **appendix XX**, and map **figure 1**) have been identified as being of local significance for wildlife and/or history. They are important in their own right and are locally valued. Development proposals that affect them will be expected to protect or enhance the identified features.

COMMUNITY ACTION ENV 1: OTHER IMPORTANT OPEN SPACE - The Parish Council will actively work with xxxx District Council and other partners to secure the protection of the locations and features of the following sites (listed below and mapped in figures x1, x2, and detailed in Appendix Z) through designation as new OSSR sites.

Trees and hedges

POLICY ENV17: IMPORTANT TREES AND HEDGES - Development proposals that damage or result in the loss of trees and woodland of arboricultural and ecological significance and amenity value will be resisted. Proposals should be designed to retain such trees where possible.

The Parish Council will continue to identify trees and woodland of value, as above, for recommendation to the Planning Authority for Tree Preservation Orders.

Four species-rich, ancient hedges identified as of high historical and ecological importance (figure 7 below and Appendix 7) will be recommended to the District Council as candidates for Tree Preservation Orders.

Habitat creation

COMMUNITY ACTION ENV 3: The Parish Council will seek to work with landowners, community groups and appropriate charities and other organisations to identify suitable sites for planting and subsequent management as community woodlands.

Biodiversity legislation compliance

POLICY ENV 4: BIODIVERSITY

- a) Development proposals will be expected to protect local habitats and species especially those covered by relevant English and European legislation and, where possible, to create new habitats for wildlife.
- b) The Plan will designate a wildlife corridor as shown (map below) [location]

COMMUNITY ACTION ENV 4: BIODIVERSITY

- a) The Parish Council in conjunction with other bodies will prepare and keep updated an environmental inventory list of known sites of biodiversity interest;
- b) The Parish Council will actively seek to work with community groups and other bodies to enhance the biodiversity of the designated wildlife corridor.

Ridge and furrow

POLICY ENV 3: RIDGE AND FURROW FIELDS - Development proposals that adversely affect or damage an identified surviving area of ridge and furrow earthworks (map below) will be strongly resisted.

Views

POLICY ENV 5 PROTECTION OF IMPORTANT VIEWS

Development that impacts in any way on the following locally important and valued views (map below) will be strongly resisted:

- [LIST]

Public Rights of Way

POLICY ENV 6: FOOTPATHS AND CYCLEWAYS

Development proposals that result in the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, the existing network of footpaths will not be supported.

COMMUNITY ACTION ENV 5: Footpaths and cycleways - [The Parish Council] will actively seek to work with other bodies to achieve enhancements to the present network of footpaths, and to develop off-road or separated roadside cycleways as follows [details].

Sustainable development

[This example also aims to cover wind turbines and solar farms in principle (no specifics)]

POLICY ENV 7: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - Development proposals that are compliant with the aims of a low carbon economy, and contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change including sustainable design, energy generation, drainage and construction techniques and practices will be viewed positively, where (either in isolation or in combination with existing developments) the development:

- a) Does not have an adverse impact (such as noise, visual impact, reflections, shadow flicker, water pollution, smell, air quality, gaseous or particulate emissions) on the health, wellbeing or amenities of local residents and visitors;
- b) Does not have an adverse impact on the area in relation to views or the character of the surrounding landscape; and
- c) Is of an appropriate scale for the size, character and level of other facilities, the built environment and services in [parish].

Flooding etc.

POLICY ENV 8: RIVERS AND FLOODING - Development proposals will be required to demonstrate how:

- a) Its location takes flood risk into account and is not within Environment Agency Flood Risk Zone 3
- b) Its design includes, as appropriate, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), surface water management measures and permeable surfaces
- c) It does not increase the risk of flooding downstream

COMMUNITY ACTION ENV 6: [Parish] Council will support proposals by landowners, appropriate agencies and organisations

- a) to improve the current infrastructural measures in the Parish for managing and mitigating river, run-off and surface water flooding
- b) to use low-tech strategies and works, including 're-wilding' of water courses, natural dams and tree-planting in the catchment area and upstream to reduce the rates of run-off and stream flow through the village

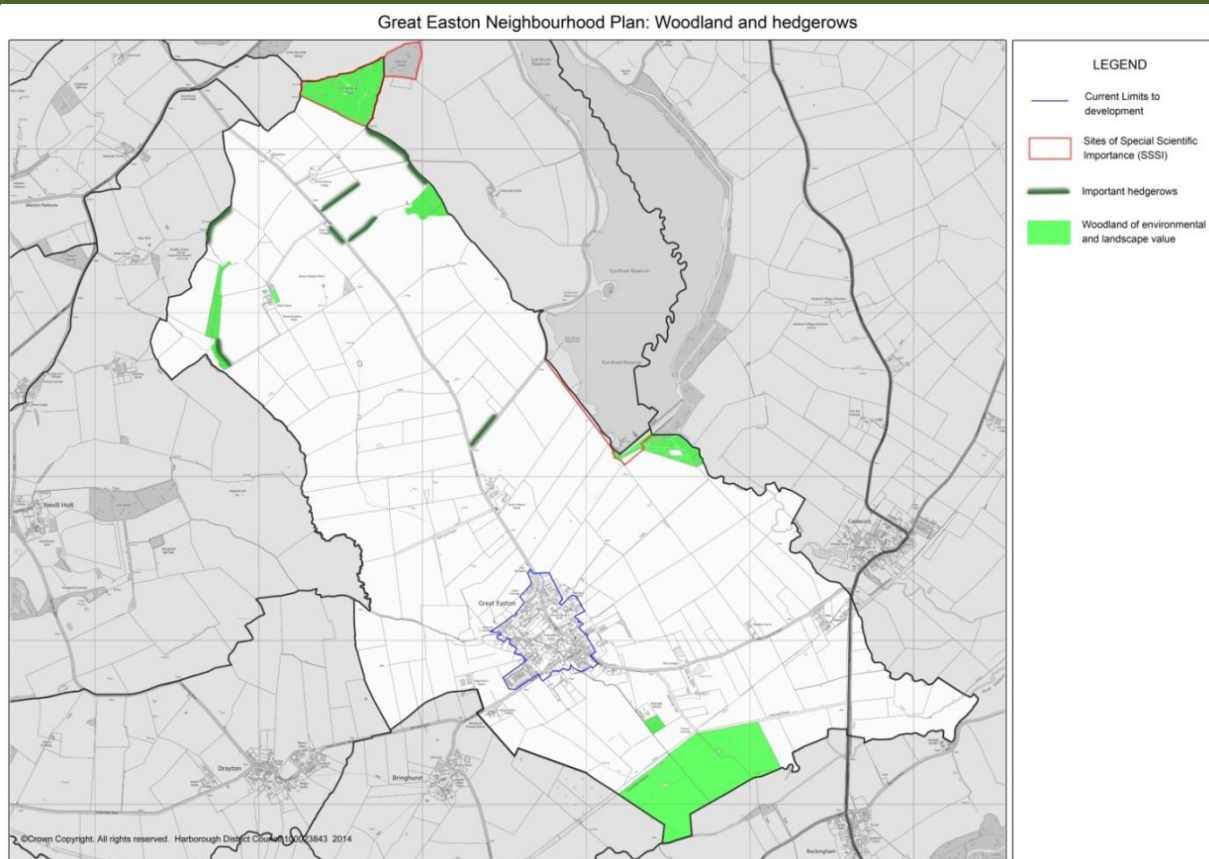
5. Trees and hedgerows

G**** has very little surviving woodland or species-rich hedges as much of the woodland was cleared in the Middle Ages.

There are currently six Group Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and three individual TPOs in the Plan Area, while others are protected by being in the Conservation Area. In view of this relative scarcity of woodland it is the wish of the community that all trees of landscape, arboricultural or ecological significance should have some protection, and that (in addition to the existing TPOs and xxxxxxx Wood SSSI and LRWT Reserve) the four other main areas of woodland in the Parish (map below) should be maintained as such.

POLICY NHE 4: IMPORTANT TREES AND HEDGES – Development proposals that damage or result in the loss of woodland (map below) or individual trees of arboricultural, landscape or ecological significance and amenity value will not normally be permitted. Proposals should be designed to retain or replace such trees and woods. Development proposals should also be accompanied by a survey that establishes the health and longevity of any affected trees.

Community Action NHE 2: Eight species-rich hedges of historical and ecological significance (see map below) will be submitted to the District Council as candidates for Tree Preservation Orders.



The paucity of woodland in the Parish is explained by local history, but is regrettable today; new woodland would enhance the landscape, increase biodiversity, provide new opportunities for community cohesion and fitness, and reduce rainwater run-off by increasing absorption and transpiration.

Community Action NHE 3: The Parish Council will seek to work with landowners, community groups and appropriate charities and other organisations to identify suitable sites for planting and subsequent management as community woodlands.